

The Brethren Evangelist,

ASHLAND, OHIO.

A. D. GNAGEY, : : Editor.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1895.

TO OUR READERS.

It is very seldom that we say anything through the EVANGELIST about its finances. We always feel as though we owe an apology to our readers when we make mention of this subject. It is now almost eight months since we took charge of the paper, and during this time we have said nothing about collections, and have sent out bills but once, and these with a view of collecting old claims. We think however, it will be in order to have a friendly talk with those of our readers who are indebted to us. June 1, the Publishing House will have large bills to meet for paper and printing, and prompt remittance on the part of those who owe the House, will be greatly appreciated.

1. We have sent out bills to all Sunday-schools that have not yet remitted for the quarter's supplies. These should be promptly paid. It is far easier for a school to raise three, four or five dollars, than it is for the Publishing Committee to get along without the several hundred dollars due from this source.

2. We have also sent out bills of old claims—taken from the books of the former management—these are of long standing, and should be promptly paid. With these bills we have sent a very modest request, which we hope will be appreciated.

3. We have also sent bills to all who have become indebted to us under our management of the paper. We desire to be as liberal as possible with our customers. You are apt to think that \$1.50 is a very small amount, and even if you would send it, could not help much. But you should remember that the \$1.50 from each subscriber is what pays for the making of the paper. Let us suppose that there are 600 subscribers who owe \$1.50 each. Now while that means but \$1.50 to you, it means \$900 to us, and as you readily see, will go far toward meeting the expense of running the office. For all work in the office, type setting, making up the forms, press work, mailing etc., we have to pay cash each week, and if it is not on hand, we become personally responsible

for the amount. Besides, the paper also must be paid.

Should there be any errors in any of the bills sent out, kindly inform us, and we will gladly make the correction. The bills, of course, have been sent out to our agents, where we have agents, and we kindly ask them to make collections as early as possible and remit to us. Another appeal may not be necessary for months to come. We trust as this is the first, it may also be the last for the year.

TRUSTEE MEETING.

The trustees of Ashland University held their regular meeting in the University building, May 15 and 16. The members present were: John Keim, president, Louisville, Ohio; C. E. Deffenbaugh, secretary, Glenford, Ohio; M. C. Myers, Mt. Pleasant, Pa.; Sylvanus Summers, Louisville, Ohio; Isaac Ross, Buckeye City, Ohio; Dr. E. J. Wosrt, I. M. Murray, Josiah Keim, Ashland, Ohio.

Some very important business was transacted, a full report of which will be given by the secretary. All the members of the board are highly pleased with the success of the school, as well they may, for, financially, it was the most successful year in the history of the institution. We are glad to announce that it is the opinion of the board that the sisters should unite their efforts in support of the Theological department in the University. We repeat that there is no higher, nobler and worthier work awaiting the hands of our sisters than this—the education of young men and women for the sacred office of the Christian ministry, preparing them to meet its solemn responsibilities. Let there be one united effort and victory will be ours.

THE TRACT WORK.

In an editorial a few weeks ago, we suggested a plan which would enable our young people to raise a sum of money that would place the tract work on a permanent financial basis. On page 11 of this issue Brother Talley gives his hearty approval of the plan. With him, we think the money should be sent to the National treasurer, and there held for the exclusive use of publishing tracts.

We need tracts—thousands of them are wanted for free distribution. Brother Talley knows whereof he speaks when he refers to the power of tracts. He has had experience along this line of work, and perhaps no one knows more about it than

brother J. D. McFaden, whose opinion of tracts you have had in the EVANGELIST many times within the last year. He has this work in hands and will give valuable information as to methods of carrying on the work, etc. Let it be understood that the society paying \$2 may select tracts from the publisher's list to the amount of \$1 at wholesale prices, or \$2 worth of an equal number of all tracts published. This would place from \$75 to \$100 worth of tracts into the hands of our young people for distribution as they may direct, and who will undertake to measure the good that may result from this work? With Sister Grossnickle leading the sisters and concentrating their efforts upon the support of the Theological chair in Ashland University, and Brother Talley leading the young people of the church and uniting their efforts in support of the tract work, we may expect great results, and we feel satisfied that our expectations will not be disappointed. For information concerning the management of the tract work, write to J. D. McFaden, Carleton, Nebraska.

SENSATIONAL PREACHING.

The announcement of sensational themes for treatment in the pulpit has done positive harm to the Gospel message of peace and good will to men. It is too often the case that a minister who lacks in intellectual strength and in spirituality, presumes to make up the deficiency by announcing some sensational theme for treatment in the pulpit on Sabbath. It is lawful that the pulpit should deal with the great social problems of the day—problems, the solution of which touch the welfare of humanity. But let it not be forgotten that the great factor or element in every sermon must be *Christ*. A sermon without Christ is no sermon at all. The announcement of a theme for pulpit treatment, should leave no doubt as to the Gospel message it will bring to the hearts of the people. The world is groaning under the burden of sin and longs for relief from its bondage. The people have a right to look to the minister for a message of peace to the sin burdened soul. An *Exchange* has the following on the subject of sensational themes for pulpit treatment:

Farmer Oatcake, who, with his good wife, Mandy, is on a brief visit to a daughter-in-law in Buffalo, looked over the newspapers on Saturday in an endeavor to find a church service on the following day which he might attend with hope of securing spiritual satisfaction. He soon gleaned